areas where there is a chronic shortage of fuelwood and kerosene and also to provide a subsidy to the weaker sections of the society : and

(c) whether it is also a fact that twenty technical back-up units were set up for research and development in chulhas technology and to provide training to self-employed workers, potters and village artisans and if so, how many of these units are located in Karnataka ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY RESOURCES AND THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. One of the main objectives of National Programme of Improved Chulhas is Fuelwood Conservation.

(b) Target for 30 lakhs chulhas has been proposed for the year 1994-95. The Programme is open to all categories of beneficiaries in rural as well as urban areas. However priority is given to those areas experiencing serious deforestation and fuel scarcity. Financial assistance is being provided to all categories of beneficiaries under this programme.

(c) At present 17 Technical Back-up Units are in operation under the National Programme on Improved Chulhas. Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology, Bangalore is the Technical Back-up Unit for the State of Karnataka.

International Terminal at Calcutta airport

*120. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) what are the cause of delay in completing the new international terminal at Calcutta Airport and by when it is likely to be commissioned ; and

(b) whether any further agreements have been entered into for more international flights through Calcutta, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The new terminal complex at Calcutta airport is scheduled to be completed in June, 1994. The delay has been mainly due to revision of scope of work, removal and relocation of existing structures and interference of local anti-social elements.

(b) As a matter of policy, Government have been offering Calcutta as a point of call for foreign airlines on liberal terms during bilateral air services talks with foreign countries. In the recent past EL-AL (Israeli Airline), KLM (Royal Netherlands Airline), Tarom (Romanian Airline), Balkan Airline (Bulgarian Airline), British Airways and Kazakh Airways (Kazakhstan Airline) have been given rights to operate to Calcutta.

Agreement with IAEA on TAPS

858. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the PRIME MINITER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have entered into a new bilateral safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency so that the nuclear power plant at Tarapur may continue to function even after the expiry of trilateral agreement including USA ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) whether this agreement will ensure uninterrupted Atomic Fuel supply to the plant ; and

(d) if not, what alternatives Government are contemplating to run the power plant without interruption ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) and (b) The 1963 bilateral co-operation agreement between India and the USA for setting up Tarapur Atomic Power

Station (TAPS) provided for IAEA safeguards on TAPS. Accordingly a trilateral safeguards agreement was entered into in 1971 between IAEA, India and the USA. This trilateral safeguards agreement expired on 24-10-1993 alongwith the 1963 bilateral cooperation agreement.

It is proposed to continue operation of TAPS with a fuel core consisting of indigenously fabricated MOX (Mixed Uranium-Plutonium Oxide) fuel and Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) fuel. For this TAPS spent fuel has to be reprocessed to obtain the plutonium required for the MOX fuel. As a confidence building measure, the Government of India made a voluntary offer to IAEA in August this year to apply safeguards on the nuclear material used in TAPS on a bilateral basis between India and the IAEA; this offer is to take effect after the expiry of the trilateral safeguards agreement on 24-10-1993. An adhoc arrangement valid till 1st March 1994 providing for safeguards has been entered into between the Government of India and the IAEA.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to operate TAPS under the arrangements mentioned above.

Uranium Deposits Found in A.P.

859. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Uranium deposits have been found recently at Lambapur in Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what steps Government is taking to recover and collect the above deposits; and

(c) what is Government's plan to discover the Uranium deposits in the whole of Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exploratory drilling has been started by Departmental Drill Machines over a limited area to assess the potentiality and economic viability of the occurrence.

(c) Efforts will be continued in the form of reconnaissance survey and follow up investigation in the adjoining areas of Lambapur and other parts of Nalgonda District to search for similar occurrences.

Controversial Tarapur Reactor Issue

860. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER to pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the controversial issues of the Tarapur reactor spent fuel could precipitate the first major confrontation on non-proliferation between India and the Clinton administration;

(b) if so, what strategy Government propose to adopt to avoid the confrontation; and

(c) what is Government's policy to solve the issue on a permanent basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVENSH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) The 1963 Bilateral Cooperation Agreement between the US and India for setting up of Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS) expired on October 24, 1993. It is proposed to continue operation of TAPS with a fuel core consisting of indigenously fabricated MOX (Mixed Uranium-Plutonium Oxide) fuel and Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) fuel. For this TAPS spent fuel has to be reprocessed to obtain the plutonium required for the MOX fuel. As a confidence building measure, the Government of India made a voluntary offer